

Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/716,989	MAN ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Brian P Mruk	1751	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to May 26, 2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 39-79.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 18 November 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |
|--|--|

Brian P. Mruk
 Brian P Mruk
 Primary Examiner
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REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Murphy, EP 786,515 A2, discloses a prewash stain remover composition comprising 0.1-5% by weight of a siloxane-based surfactant of formula (I) (page 2, line 53-page 3, line 50), 0.01-50% by weight of a cosurfactant, such as an alkyl glycoside (page 3, line 51-page 4, line 1 & page 5, lines 16-37), and 0-50% by weight of alkaline detergency builders (page 7, lines 32-57). It is further taught by Murphy that the formulation may be in liquid, spray and semi-solid stick form (page 7, lines 9-15). However, patentee differs from applicant in that Murphy does not teach or suggest in general an aqueous detergent composition with a pH of at least 10 when provided as a 1 wt. % aqueous solution, as required by applicant in independent claims 39, 60 and 73, and does not teach or suggest in general a solid, block-form of the detergent, as required by applicant in independent claim 73.

Thoen et al, U.S. Patent No. 5,965,507, discloses a cleaning composition comprising 0.1-60% by weight of a surfactant system containing mixtures of: a) polyethylene and polypropylene oxide condensates of alkyl phenols, wherein the alkyl group contains 6 to 14 carbon atoms and the polyethylene and polypropylene oxides are present in an amount of 2 to 25 moles per mole of alkyl phenol (col. 3, lines 15-66); b) alkylpolyglycosides (col. 4, lines 19-36); and c) condensation products of ethylene oxide with a hydrophobic base formed by the condensation of propylene oxide with propylene glycol (col. 4, lines 37-67). It is further taught by Thoen et al that

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polycarboxylate polymers and chelants, such as the alkali or alkaline earth metal salts of EDDS may be incorporated into the composition (col. 12, line 18-col. 13, line 7).

Thoen et al discloses that builder materials, such as alkali metal carbonates, and silicone suds controlling agents, such as DC-544 (a siloxane glycol copolymer) may also be present in the compositions (col. 13, lines 11-64). It is further taught by Thoen et al that the compositions may be formulated as hand and machine detergents for cleaning laundry and hard surface areas (col. 2, lines 30-36), that the method of cleaning is carried out between 5-95⁰ C (col. 18, lines 39-45), and that the pH of the treatment solution is from 7 to 11 (col. 18, lines 45-46). However, patentee differs from applicant in that Thoen et al does not teach or suggest in general the specific silicone surfactants required by applicant in independent claims 39, 60 and 73.

Accordingly, the claims viewed as a whole would not have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention after viewing the prior art of record.

2. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

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3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Brian Mruk whose telephone number is (571) 272-1321. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday from 7:00 AM to 5:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Yogendra Gupta, can be reached on (571) 272-1316. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

BPM

Brian Mruk
June 18, 2004

Brian P. Mruk
Brian P. Mruk
Primary Examiner
Tech Center 1700